

## THE REBELLION.

## Important News from Washington.

## Increased Activity at the War Department.

## The Organization of an Overwhelming Army on Foot.

## Eighty Thousand Fresh Men Already Accepted.

## Additional Details of the Conflict at Bull's Run.

## Stirring Reports of the Exploits of the Soldiers.

## The Rear of the Retreating Forces Well Protected by the Reserve Corps.

## The Names of the Killed and Wounded.

## The Eighth, Sixty-ninth and Seventy-first Regiments En Route for New York.

## Military Movements in the Metropolis.

## OUR SPECIAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, July 24, 1861.

## THE POSITION OF THE ARMY.

As has been stated that our troops have moved out to Fairfax Court House and fortified it. This is not so. Our army is wholly on the other side of the river, from Alexandria to the Chain Bridge, and our pickets are only about five miles beyond.

## ASPECT OF THE CITY.

Affairs were a more cheerful aspect to-day. Fresh troops are continually arriving, and appear to be of the desirable character.

Baggage wagons and commissariat supplies seem to be as plentiful as heretofore, and altogether there is a gathering up of army fragments.

## THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

The business at the War Department to-day is remarkably heavy. The telegraphic despatches hourly accumulate, the senders tending troops in surprising numbers. For example, Illinois has offered seventeen and Indiana ten regiments. Some of them have already started, and others will be en route to-morrow.

## REORGANIZATION OF THE ARMY.

The most vigorous measures are being adopted by the War Department for a thorough and complete reorganization of our army. Old systems will be changed to practical models for the better management of our forces, by providing reliable officers. To this end the Secretary of War has issued general orders to-day that all officers of regiments will be subject to examination by a board of officers, to be appointed by the War Department, with the concurrence of the Commander-in-Chief, as to their fitness for the positions assigned them. Those found incompetent will be rejected, and their positions will be filled by competent officers, that may have passed an examination of the said military board.

## EIGHTY THOUSAND FRESH VOLUNTEERS ACCEPTED.

Up to twelve o'clock to-day nearly 80,000 men have been accepted and are at this moment being marshalled into service all over the North. Many are now in motion, on their way to the national capital. The energy and well directed efforts of the War Department and of the General-in-Chief has done much to restore confidence.

## THE APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL McCLELLAN.

The prompt appointment of General McClellan, who is now on his way here, to command the grand army, has given undoubted satisfaction and created great enthusiasm among the soldiers. They are worthy of being led by so great a general as McClellan, who has recently given such decisive proofs of his great abilities.

## OPERATIONS OF THE RESERVE DIVISION AT THE BATTLE.

Great injustice has been done the reserve, in reference to the Bull's run battle. It was composed of Colonel Blenker's, Colonel Davies' and Colonel Richardson's brigades. The moment the order came for Blenker's brigade to move to the front it started. The reserve had already begun. Fugitives from the field were hurrying past. Colonel Miles, in command of the reserve, ordered the brigade to push on over any and all obstructions, and not to fall to the rear, and at all hazards protect the rear of the retreating army. In the meantime Colonel Richardson's brigade was in front of the battery with which it was engaged on the Thursday previous. Six companies of the First Massachusetts regiment were deployed on the right to support a battery in front. Two companies were detailed as skirmishers in a thick wood on the right of the brigade, and two other companies were upon the right of the original position of the brigade command, astonished at the change of position, for they had encountered no enemy on the route. About midnight the brigade was ordered to proceed towards Fairfax Court House, and protect the fugitives going in that direction. The whole of this reserve division was in its place and ready for duty. If it had been called upon in time it might have prevented the disgraceful retreat of a victorious army.

## COL. BLANKER'S BRIGADE.

Colonel Miles has been grossly misrepresented. No one did the giving an order for retreat, but after the retreat had begun, and when General Miles was actually carrying along in the stream of fugitives, he ordered his brigade to the rear of the retreating column, and covered the retreat with his men in perfect order, and ready to resist any attack. The unfortunate order for a retreat cannot be attributed to him, for all the rest of the army had taken the back track long before his division moved in that direction, and while the others came back in confusion, except the Rhode Islanders, his regiment retired in the same order in which they had advanced.

## GALLANT CONDUCT OF GEN. BLANKER'S RESERVE BRIGADE.

Col. Blenker's brigade, consisting of the Eighth and Twenty-ninth New York Volunteers, and the Garibaldi Guard, formed a part of the reserve on Sunday. They were in position during the day upon the extreme left, near Centerville. About four o'clock the order came to Col. Blenker to bring up his brigade. It was formed, and proceeded towards the battlefield, by way of the Warrenton turnpike. The panic among our troops had already occurred. The fugitives lined the road, and the current of the stream could not be turned back. Blenker's brigade proceeded until the front rested about a quarter of a mile from Warrenton Bridge, and a little over a mile from the principal battlefield. At this point the Eighth New York Volunteers formed in line of battle on both sides of the road, Captain Schumacher's company, the Tenth, skirmishing in advance upon the left. The Twenty-ninth and the Garibaldi Guard were formed on the left of the road, within a space of a mile to the rear. This position was occupied until eight o'clock P. M., when a large body of rebel cavalry appeared upon the hill in front near the bridge. One company of the cavalry was sent forward. As it approached Captain Schumacher's position he called out, "Who are you?" Receiving no reply, and being unwilling to fire on any of our own people, numbers of whom had already passed through his lines, he repeated the demand. At this moment the officer of the cavalry gave the command, in French, "En avant!" and the company of the cavalry were discharged at the company. The fire was promptly returned, enjoying four addings, when the cavalry wheeled and retired. When the challenge was made, and the answer, "En avant!" was given by the rebel officer, Captain Schumacher's men were all kneeling behind a fence. Colonel Blenker, Lieutenant Colonel Stadel, commanding the regiment, and Major Bolowick and Hartenbourg, attached to Colonel Blenker's staff, all of whom were on horseback, and Captain Schumacher, who was on foot, were the only parties visible when the charge was made. Five prisoners, who were in charge of this cavalry, were rescued at that time, and seven more subsequently recovered. The position was maintained until nearly two o'clock on Monday morning, when the brigade was ordered to retreat, which was done in perfect order, Captain Schumacher's company acting as skirmishers in the rear all the way to Alexandria.

## ON MONDAY, AT TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING, SOME OF THE EIGHTH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS VISITED THE BATTLEGROUND.

and with a wagon brought off several of the wounded men. They saw none of the rebels in the neighborhood. These facts show clearly that the rebels were retreating towards Manassas at the same time that our army were flying back to Washington. The rebel cavalry was left to cover the retreat on their side, and they had then no idea that they had won a victory. If our fugitives could have been in order in the rear of the position occupied by Blenker's reserve, they might have returned during the night or the next morning, and triumphantly occupied the very field of battle on which they had fought so well. Not a gun nor a wagon would have been lost on our side, but the heavy guns in the enemy's batteries would all have been captured.

## WHEN THE REPORT OF THE CONDUCT OF BLANKER'S BRIGADE WAS MADE AT HEADQUARTERS GEN. SCOTT EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE TO THE BRIGADE FOR ITS BRAVERY AND STEADINESS, AND ITS PROTECTION OF THE REAR AT A TIME WHEN ALL APPREHENDED A FURTHER ASSAULT FROM A PURSUING ENEMY.

All the field pieces left on the way were brought in by Blenker's brigade. Several of these pieces had been broken down, but were attended by their officers. One standard was brought back by an aid of Colonel Blenker's, and one standard of Union colors by the First German Rifles, and one standard of the First Massachusetts regiment.

## ASTONISHMENT OF THE REBELS AT THEIR SUCCESS.

An additional evidence of the astonishment of the rebels at the retirement of our forces is furnished from the fact that on Monday morning a gentleman, in citizen's dress, rode down the road from Centerville to where the camp of the First Massachusetts regiment had been, and found there a cavalry picket of the rebels, wondering, with evident amazement, why the camp had been vacated so suddenly as to leave behind the blankets and knapsacks of the men.

## THE ENEMY APPREHENDED THE MOVEMENTS OF THE UNION ARMY.

It is evident now that the rebels have means of ascertaining accurately and immediately the orders issued in relation to the movements of our troops. They had every reason to believe that the main attack on their lines would be made at Blackburn's Ford, where the engagement of Thursday had occurred, and in that belief they would reasonably have placed the greatest body of their troops at that point. This was the calculation on our side. The order of battle was not disclosed, even to division commanders, until after ten o'clock on Saturday night. By these orders the main attack was directed to be made by the right wing, proceeding by way of Sudley's Spring, three miles above Blackburn's Ford, and a mile and a half above the Warrenton bridge. The movement was made promptly, yet the rebels were found to have concentrated at that point the main body of their forces. They appeared to have been perfectly informed that no attack was to be made in the center, or on the left wing, as they left these points long before the main attack was made. The order of battle was not disclosed, even to division commanders, until after ten o'clock on Saturday night. By these orders the main attack was directed to be made by the right wing, proceeding by way of Sudley's Spring, three miles above Blackburn's Ford, and a mile and a half above the Warrenton bridge. The movement was made promptly, yet the rebels were found to have concentrated at that point the main body of their forces. They appeared to have been perfectly informed that no attack was to be made in the center, or on the left wing, as they left these points long before the main attack was made.

## THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE RIGHT AND LEFT WINGS WAS QUOTE THREE MILES, AND THE BATTLE WAS WAGED MORE OR LESS FREELY ALONG THE WHOLE LINE.

The field artillery that was lost will be immediately replaced. Rifled batteries will be forwarded at once by the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Connecticut, and the Whitworth rifled battery, presented by patriotic citizens abroad, will also be brought on.

## INCIDENTS OF THE BATTLE.

Captains Loch and Nobles, who were in charge of trains of two hundred wagons, laden with supplies, were met by the retreating column six miles this side of the battle ground. They brought their trains safely back to the city. No wagons were lost, except the regimental baggage wagons that were on the field of battle.

## CORPORAL SHERMAN, OF AYRES' (FORMERLY SHERMAN'S) BATTERY.

Corporal Sherman, of Ayres' (formerly Sherman's) battery, who had been fifteen years in the service, and was with Capt. Sherman in Mexico, while leading his piece, under a tremendous fire, received three wounds, in the shoulder, breast and thigh. In the afternoon he was taken to the city. The First Massachusetts regiment bore itself gallantly in the action. They met the fire of the rebel batteries without flinching. Col. Lawrence is not dangerously wounded.

## A GALLANT FEAT WAS PERFORMED BY THE NEW YORK SIXTY-NINTH DURING THE BATTLE AT BULL'S RUN.

They charged a rebel battery, took it, and held it for more than an hour before the retreat.

## GOVERNOR SPRAGUE, OF RHODE ISLAND, HAD TWO HORSES KILLED UNDER HIM DURING THE ACTION.

After the first one was killed, by his horse being shot away by a cannon ball, he was gathered around him and insisted upon his going to the rear. This he positively refused to do, and continued throughout the engagement at the head of his brigade, gallantly leading them on and encouraging their efforts.

## AMONG THE PRISONERS TAKEN ARE THREE OF THE SURGEONS ATTACHED TO THE MAINE REGIMENTS—DR. WILLIAMS, OF THE FIRST, WHO WAS WOUNDED AND TAKEN PRISONER ON THE FIELD, AND DR. ALLEN, OF THE SECOND, AND DR. BUCKSTON, OF THE THIRD, WHO WERE LEFT BEHIND AT THE HOSPITAL TAKING CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

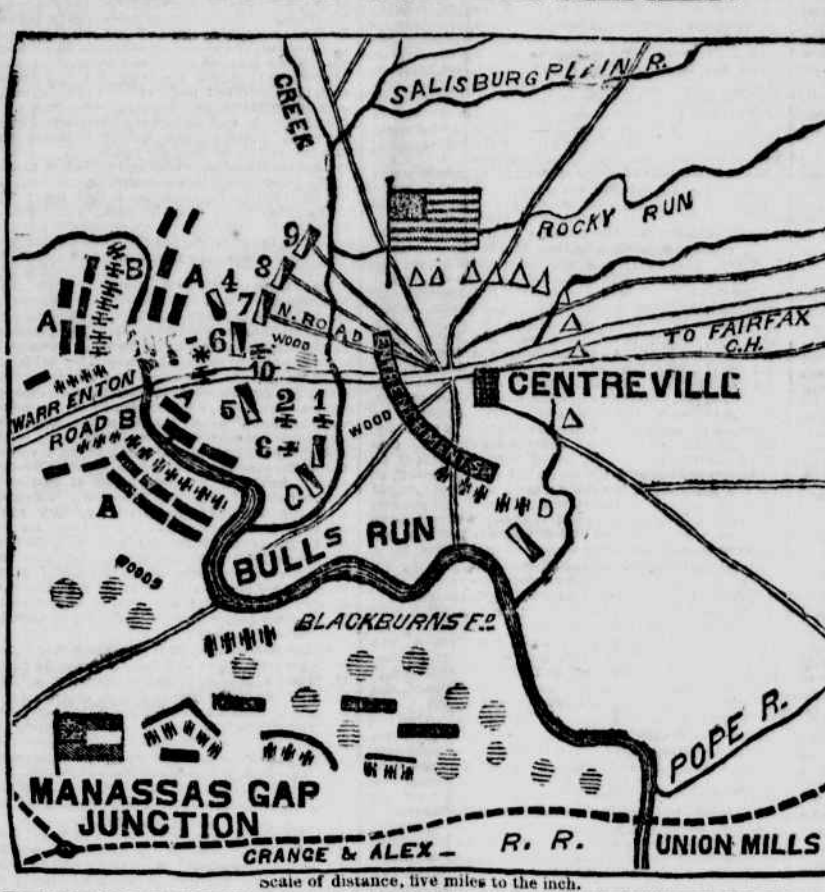
Major Bidwell, of the Michigan First regiment, who assumed command after Wilcox fell, was yesterday and is to-day gathering up his men. He estimates that thirty or forty will cover the killed, and double that number the wounded in his regiment.

## YOUR CORRESPONDENT CAN HIMSELF BEAR PERSONAL TESTIMONY TO THE INTEGRITY OF THE GALLANT FIRST GERMAN RIFLES.

While the panic was at its very height, the commander of the division rode up to Colonel Blenker, after vainly exhorting himself to stem the frantic tide of fugitives, and remarking to him, "Colonel, you and your regiment can save the republic." To which the fearless commander replied, "We have never learned to run before the enemy."

The brave conduct of Colonel Hunter, commanding the Second division, deserves special notice. He was shot in

## THE BULL'S RUN BATTLEFIELD.



A represents the rebel camp.  
B marked batteries of the secessionists.  
C Col. Miles' Fifth division.  
D Brig. Gen. Blenker's brigade, fortified on the heights of Centerville.  
E represents Lieut. Haynes' ponderous 30 pounder Parrott gun.  
F Major Barry's Fort Pickens battery, Capt. Tidball, commanding.  
G Lieut. Green's battery.  
H Hunt's battery.  
I Tyler's division.  
J Hunter's division.  
K Heintzelman's division.  
L Franklin's division.  
M Porter's division.  
N Ayres' battery.

the throat, while directing in person the Second Rhode Island regiment, in its gallant assault upon a battery. Just before being wounded he had given an order to one of his aids for a distant regiment. The aid was about galloping off, when he saw the Colonel fall from his horse. He immediately came to his assistance, but the Colonel motioned him off, telling him, "deliver your order, and never mind me—I will take care of myself!"

Lieutenant Colonel Boon, of Mississippi, one of the few prisoners taken by our troops, states that he had the Union troops held their ground on the other side of Bull's run for half an hour longer, the entire rebel army would have given way.

The failure of the enemy to pursue our frightened troops can evidently be explained only by the supposition that the rebels were racing in the direction of Richmond, while our men were running towards Washington. The rebels were, beyond all doubt, immeasurably astonished on discovering the dispersal of the Union troops.

It was acting Lieutenant Colonel Baggett, and not Lieutenant Colonel Nugent, of the Sixty-ninth, that was killed in the action.

How absolute the disintegration of the grand army was, is fully evidenced by the fact that Brigade commanders would be seen on Sunday night between Centerville and Fairfax Court House without an aid or a man of their brigades within ten miles of them.

It is a singular fact that, although the First Zouaves sustained such heavy losses, and were subjected to such a terrible fire from the rebel batteries, not a single one of the company officers was killed or injured, except two or three who received slight flesh wounds.

## THE LOSS IN THE CONFLICT.

The exaggerated loss of the Union troops is happily daily being greatly diminished. The Marines had only eight privates killed and seventeen wounded.

Ambulances, containing the wounded, continue to arrive. In the present confused condition of affairs it is impossible to procure full lists of the killed and the wounded. There cannot yet be any official report giving the information. The names of such, however, as can be reliably ascertained are transmitted as soon as received.

The exaggerated first reports as to the Union loss in killed and wounded arose from the boundless generosity of most of the Union soldiers, and many of their officers, in regard to their own exploits and those of their regiments. Nearly all asserted, in palliation of the general scattering and running of the several commands to which they belonged, that their regiments had been cut to pieces; that two out of every three had been killed, &c.

Any one anxious to satisfy himself as to the extent of lying of which human nature is capable, had but to spend a few hours on Pennsylvania avenue during the last three days. The ravens were always literally lined with fugitive soldiers, relating to groups of curious listeners the most absurd and fabulous stories. Infamous lies were thus constantly put in circulation by them, that would have made the very heavens blush.

A gentleman who has just returned from Alexandria, where he visited the various hospitals, states that there are about one hundred and fifty wounded, some of them mortally. He visited the various fortifications and other means of defence, accompanied with a United States engineer, and found all of them in excellent order and condition. They are regarded as almost impregnable, and no apprehension is entertained that the rebel force could if they should attempt it, take them from any point of attack. There are enough well disciplined troops behind them to hold themselves against any army the rebels can muster. The other fortifications are also in excellent condition, competent to resist any force that may be brought against them. They have all been visited to-day by the chief of the engineer corps.

THE REMAINS OF COL. COMMON RECOVERED.  
Mr. Harry Magraw and his companion, who left here day before yesterday for Bull's run to recover the remains of Col. Common, who was supposed to be killed in battle, succeeded in finding the body in a log house near the run. Mr. Magraw was known to have started for this city yesterday, but to this afternoon has not arrived. Unless he returns to-night it is the intention of the government to send a flag of truce, escorted by a portion of the Seventy-ninth regiment, under command of Capt. Ellis, of that regiment, to learn of his whereabouts.

NON. ALFRED ELY MISSING.  
Mr. Ely, member of Congress from Rochester district, has not been heard from. When last seen on the field of battle he stood by the side of a battery, which was a few minutes afterwards charged by cavalry. It is feared that he was run down by the horses, or cast down by the riders, or taken prisoner. His position promised a fair chance for either. Mr. Ely was in the same situation, being in company with Mr. Ely. Mr. Ely was a genial, intelligent gentleman.

THE DEBRIS OF THE GRAND ARMY.  
It has thus far been found almost impossible to gather the debris of the grand army into the former encampments of the several regiments that participated in the precipitate retreat to Washington. Thousands of men are straggling about the city in the most independent fashion. Many of the officers continue to get a bad example by persisting in the enjoyment of hotel comforts, instead of reporting for duty and trying to rally their men, and infuse them once more with a spirit of order and discipline.

SOLDIERS ORDERED TO JOIN THEIR REGIMENTS.  
An order has been issued by General Mansfield, dated noon to-day, as follows:—

All straggling soldiers will join their respective regiments without delay. (Here follows the designations of regiments and the names of the officers designated to lead them.) Soldiers attached to regiments in camp or quartered on the Virginia side and not embarked in the foregoing list will rendezvous at Jackson square, opposite the President's House. All stragglers found in the streets six hours after the promulgation of this order will be deemed guilty of dereliction of duty, and will be taken care of.

General McDowell was informed by scouts that the rebels were actually outflanking us on the left, and ordered Colonel Miles, commander of the Fifth division to stop the enemy's movements in that quarter, and hold Centerville at all hazards.

Colonel Miles, therefore, instantly dispatched Green's battery (No. 2, in our maps) to the left of the point of attack, about three miles distant from Centerville, and Hunt's battery (No. 3) one mile further left of Green's, from which point they both pointed towards the woods beyond the run, to such an extent that the rebels abandoned their flank movements upon our rear. Major Barry's battery, Captain Tidball commanding (No. 1), was stationed between Centerville and the artillery just named, ready to move forward to the aid of either place. Hunt and Green's batteries were supported by the Second brigade of the Fifth division, scattered through the woods as skirmishers.

The black line around Centerville represents the redoubts created by the German brigade in command of Brigadier General Blenker, and on the map shows the order of the various regiments with which the intrenchment was to have been fortified. The force detached for the protection of this stronghold consisted of the Eighth regiment, Lieutenant Colonel J. Stadel, Twenty-ninth regiment, Colonel Von Steinwehr; Garibaldi Guard, Colonel C. Tracy, New York Volunteers, and the Twenty-seventh Pennsylvania regiment, Colonel M. Bluntin, out of which practical artillerymen sufficient to man the guns of the Eighth regiment New York State Militia.

On the right, on the Warrenton road, the gun marked (\*) indicates the position of Henry's thirty pound rifled siege gun, while a little further right (No. 10) was Ayres', formerly Sherman's battery. No. 6 represents Colonel Heintzelman's division; No. 7, Col. Franklin's; No. 8, Col. Keyser's; and No. 9, Col. Porter's division. No. 4 represents Gen. Tyler's division, which was at first on the left, but changed position. The black spaces represent the enemy's column, while the half black indicate the Union troops. From the engraving it will also be seen that Bull's run is not a space of only a few feet; on the contrary, it winds around a distance of nearly twelve miles. The masked batteries, and the positions of the rebels are located below Blackburn's ford, and may be distinctly recognized by the rebel flag waving near, or at Manassas Gap Junction.

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On the right, on the Warrenton road, the gun marked (\*) indicates the position of Henry's thirty pound rifled siege gun, while a little further right (No. 10) was Ayres', formerly Sherman's battery. No. 6 represents Colonel Heintzelman's division; No. 7, Col. Franklin's; No. 8, Col. Keyser's; and No. 9, Col. Porter's division. No. 4 represents Gen. Tyler's division, which was at first on the left, but changed position. The black spaces represent the enemy's column, while the half black indicate the Union troops. From the engraving it will also be seen that Bull's run is not a space of only a few feet; on the contrary, it winds around a distance of nearly twelve miles. The masked batteries, and the positions of the rebels are located below Blackburn's ford, and may be distinctly recognized by the rebel flag waving near, or at Manassas Gap Junction.

scale of distance, five miles to the inch.

General McDowell was informed by scouts that the rebels were actually outflanking us on the left, and ordered Colonel Miles, commander of the Fifth division to stop the enemy's movements in that quarter, and hold Centerville at all hazards.

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General